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BRAZILIAN NEWSPAPER REVIEWS ARGENTINE-SOVIET RELATIONS

PY222233 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 20 Jan 80 p 13 PY

[By correspondent Rosental Calmon Alves]

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires--The economic and political reasons for Argentina's refusal to participate in the U.S. boycott against the Soviet Union may be many, but undoubtedly the most important reason is that, despite the strong ideological antagonism separating the two regimes, Moscow and Buenos Aires became important partners in the 1970's through growing exchanges in the commercial, military, cultural, scientific and technological fields.

The question is treated with much circumspection by Argentine official circles, which avoid making declarations or merely cite statistics without further elaboration. On the Soviet side there is absolute silence on the part of diplomatic officials, and even authorized spokesmen do not want to talk about this question. The truth is that, despite opposition in other areas, the Argentine military regime receives no more than mild criticism for its ties with the Soviet communist regime.

Leopoldo Bravo, one of the few Western diplomats who met Stalin (in 1953 while serving in Moscow for the first time), has headed the Argentine Embassy in Moscow since the military took power in 1976, "and nobody is considering his removal, because he epitomizes the case of the right man in the right spot," an Argentine expert in relations with the socialist bloc commented.

But the solid foundations of the Argentine-Soviet partnership were laid down in the 1970's. Early in that decade, Buenos Aires realized the need to broaden exchange with Moscow and encouraged the creation of legal mechanisms to facilitate that exchange, and especially to make it permanent.

From $30 million in 1972, Argentine-Soviet trade reached a record figure of more than $500 million in 1978 and stayed above $400 million last year. In the entire context of Argentine foreign trade, the Soviets have simply become leaders as purchasers of several products. The Soviet Union is currently the largest buyer of cereals (both cereals as a whole and each variety separately), leather and meat, precisely the products which are the mainstays of the Argentine economy. The Soviet Union in turn exports very little, mostly heavy equipment for state-owned enterprises such as government oil deposits and hydroelectric plants.

Argentina sells to the Soviet Union almost 10 times more than it buys, and the difference would be even greater if it were not for the hydroelectric sector. The USSR is a strong prospect for supplying turbines for Yacyreta (the Argentine-Paraguayan project which is in the initial phase of construction) and is now manufacturing 14 turbines for Salto Grande (an Argentine-Uruguayan project), 3 of which have already been delivered. In addition, Russian experts are participating in the most important Argentine hydroelectric project, the Middle Parana project, which has been dubbed "the answer to Itaipu."

The Soviets are also cooperating with Argentina in the nuclear energy sector. They have supplied the Argentine National Atomic Energy Commission technology for the manufacture of special long, seamless tubes to encase uranium pellets.

In the military field also, pragmatism has closed the ideological gap which separates the two countries, and exchange has been initiated through plans for training officers. The existence of great interest in this field is attested to by the fact that a high-ranking Soviet delegation visited Argentina in August 1979 and a month later an Argentine delegation went to the USSR. This delegation was headed by one of the highest-ranking officers in Argentina, Gen Jose Montes, who 3 months later was appointed commander of the largest Argentine Army. The Argentine Air Force is now being provided with Russian technology for the manufacture of special rockets to prevent hail, a phenomenon which causes considerable damage to agriculture in some regions of Argentina.

A journalist of the TASS agency's office in Buenos Aires says: "I have never covered as many Soviet cultural events as I have recently." He was referring to cultural events of all kinds, such as ballets, movies, festivals and even circuses, not to mention sports events. In the area of sports there is a great deal of exchange going on, and some Russian experts are training Argentine athletes for the Olympic games.

U.S. OFFICIALS HOLD MEETING ON AFGHANISTAN, BOYCOTT

PY240207 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0120 GMT 24 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Jan (TELAM)--The crisis precipitated by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the effects of the grain boycott by the United States were analyzed in a long meeting held today at the Foreign Ministry building among Foreign Minister Carlos W. Pastor, Economic Minister Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz, U.S. Ambassador Raul Castro and President Carter's personal emissary, Gen Andrew Jackson Goodpaster. Foreign Ministry sources reported that bilateral relations between Argentina and the United States were also examined during the meeting.

HUNGARIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

PY231721 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1315 GMT 23 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Pal Racz, state secretary of the Foreign Ministry of the Hungarian People's Republic, arrived in this country today for a 4-day visit. The Hungarian foreign minister [as received] arrived at Ezeiza International Airport at 0945 and was received at the airport by Col Carlos Cavandoli, foreign relations secretary of the Argentine Foreign Ministry.

Stronger Trade, Economic Ties

PY232225 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1428 GMT 23 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Jan (TELAM)--Pal Racz, Hungarian secretary of state for foreign relations, said on his arrival in our country today that the aims of his visit include the possibility of strengthening relations with Argentina, particularly in the economic and trade sectors. The Hungarian secretary made these remarks at Ezeiza International Airport, where he arrived at 0945. He was welcomed by Col Carlos Cavandoli, under secretary of foreign relations, and by Col Hugo Feddersen, manager of the airport.

Racz recalled that our country and Hungary have maintained good relations since before World War II and that these relations had been strengthened. He said: "We believe that now is the time to expand these relations even further. We believe this will occur in all areas, particularly in the economic and trade sectors."

He also emphasized the progress made by Argentina and Hungary in the last few years. "Therefore, we believe that trade relations, which will be beneficial for the two countries, will be expanded to include the cultural, scientific and technical areas."

He added: "Another reason for my visit is the possibility of exchanging ideas on the current international situation. We want to know the Argentine opinion, and we will also make our own ideas known. This is because we believe that the current situation is very important and that it must be analyzed."

Regarding the possible succession to Marshal Tito, he said that Hungary has maintained friendly relations with its southern neighbor for a long time, and "we have no interest in seeing a decrease in Yugoslav stability. We would like to see no change in this situation." In conclusion, he expressed hope for an improvement in Marshal Tito's health and said that he was very happy to be in our country.

VIOLA DISCUSSES POLITICAL FUTURE, RELATIONS WITH U.S.

PY222305 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Jan 80 PY

[Excerpts] Mar del Plata, 22 Jan (TELAM)--Lt Gen Roberto Eduardo Viola (ret), former commander of the army and former member of the military junta, said here today: "I do not have a great desire to be president, but I would accept the appointment because this would be one more act of service." Viola, in an exclusive interview with the newspaper LA CAPITAL of this city, said that "I have already stated on other occasions that I could not refuse if I were selected. You asked me if I want to be president, and if I said no, few people would believe it. I said on one occasion that I do not have a great desire to be president."

Answering another question he said: "It is not up to me to say if I will have support from the army and the other branches of the armed forces for my appointment. A friend told me once: General, don't you think 8 months is a long time? Won't people forget you? I answered: That is no problem. If people forget me it will be because they have found someone better."

Concerning his future political activity, Viola said: "It will not be in an orthodox manner, but I will continue working for the success of the process in its development. There is no other alternative; therefore, I will put my best efforts toward the strengthening of the process so that it will culminate in total success." He then said with a wide smile: "Besides, political activity is prohibited."

The former commander of the army also said: "I can say that I agree 90 percent with the implementation of the political dialog, although I believe that the so-called proposal should have been made 2 years ago. By doing that we would have gained much time. Regarding general results, I believe that great progress has been made. Let us not forget that this government had to fight against guerrilla organizations, to face an imminent armed conflict with Chile, handle matters related to human rights and answer an intense international campaign against Argentina. Yes, the army and the other branches of the armed forces had to divert 50 percent of their potential to face so many problems. I believe that the results obtained thus far by the process have been excellent."

Viola rejected the existence of a secret agreement between our country and the United States to sell them all our grain production in view of the current situation. He denied this possibility.

Regarding the Argentine position regarding the grain embargo requested by Washington against the USSR, he indicated that the United States, its government, with a paternalistic outlook, believed that it was going to get immediate Argentine support on the grain situation. This did not happen.

He then said that Argentina is alone in its struggle against Marxism as it faces the permanent attack of the United States. He said: "What is happening is not logical. There is something wrong when only the countries of the socialist bloc or those of the Third World support us when the matter of human rights is brought up. On the other hand, the attacks come from the Western world."

He then said that means of action to face the United States should be put into effect, because 1980 will be a hard year in our (relations) with them for three reasons: "our refusal to adhere to the grain boycott, the matter of human rights and because this is an election year in that country, and the arguments used by the candidates there are already known."

He understood the U.S. position regarding the problems facing that country in Asia. He said: "It is very dangerous for the United States to reason with dangerous people. Besides, the United States jealously guards the welfare of its citizens. Therefore it had no other choice than to do what it has done to obtain the release of the hostages in Tehran. I believe that when the hostages are finally released, the reprisals will be hard."

Viola will remain in this city until Thursday, when he will return to his activities in the federal capital.

MARTINEZ DE HOZ CALLS FOR 'FINAL EFFORT' IN 1980

PY182308 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1950 GMT 18 Jan 80 PY

[Excerpts] Salta, Argentina, 18 Jan (NA)--Argentine Economy Minister Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz has reaffirmed that his ministry's program will end this year and "at that point the country will be able to truly appreciate the results of President Videla's administration," according to a statement published here today. "If we persevere, the favorable tendency evident in the last quarter of 1979 will be confirmed," Martinez de Hoz said during an interview published today by the daily EL TRIBUNO of this capital.

Martinez de Hoz also stated that the Argentine Armed Forces "have decided to support an economic program which demands short-term sacrifices and makes in-depth changes that will be appreciated in the medium and long term." He emphasized that "to implement this program one needs time and political decisiveness. I would say political courage. The current military commanders have both. Others in the past have lacked the time and the courage. This time the two elements have come together. In my opinion this is the main characteristic of this process."

He added that 1980 "will be a hard year because we still have to make a significant effort to avoid upsetting what we have achieved in 3 years, but it will also be a happy year because at its end we will see the results of the economic program." Asked whether the results would not be happy for some and heavy for others, he said: "This is one of the typical oversimplifications the Argentines constantly make. We have said more than once that we have done our best to share the efforts equitably among all sectors of the community."

He added: "Proof of this is the fact that everybody is protesting. I would worry if only one sector was protesting. Since everybody is protesting it means the efforts are being shared." Martinez de Hoz indicated: "We want all the sectors to make a final effort, and we cannot make exceptions because that would harm others, even though we know very well that some are in better shape than others to bear the hardships."

POSSIBLE OLYMPIC BOYCOTT BEING ANALYZED

PY231505 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 23 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Itamaraty is currently analyzing a possible Olympics boycott. Bernardo Pericas has indicated that the issue has not even reached the decisionmaking stage because no formal request has been received.

IRANIAN OIL NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE

PY231506 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 23 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas has confirmed that Brazil is still negotiating oil supplies with Iran. Pericas believes that Iran could supply oil at the rate maintained prior to December 1979--that is, 150,000 barrels per day.

NIGERIA INTERESTED IN PURCHASING WAR MATERIEL

PY232107 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 22 Jan 80 p 18 PY

[Text] Brasilia--A high-ranking Nigerian delegation, which includes 11 military officers, yesterday began contacting Brazilian authorities to discuss the purchase of a variety of war materiel. The Nigerian military officers met with the chairman of the Brazilian War Materiel Industry (IMBEL), Arnaldo Calderari, and Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro. Today they will meet with the chief of the armed forces general staff, Gen Jose Ferraz de Rocha.

The chief of the delegation, Air Force Brig Gen R. M. Dumuje, indicated that Nigeria wishes to know everything about the war materiel that is produced in Brazil. According to Dumuje, Nigeria wishes to explore every type of possible economic cooperation with the Brazilian Government. The delegation will also discuss the strategic policy and aspects of the foreign policy of Africa where they affect mutual interests.

FLOODS KILL EIGHT IN MINAS GERAIS

PY231612 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 23 Jan 80 PY

[Text] New heavy rains in Minas Gerais have caused eight more deaths and increased to 4,000 the number of homeless throughout the state. The rains were heavier in the jungle area where seven of the latest eight deaths took place. The flood casualties now total 25 since last December. Governor Francelino Pereira has made an inspection tour of San Francisco Valley where rains have decreased significantly in the last few days, thus reducing the people's fear of new floods.

INFLATION FORECAST AT 45 PERCENT FOR 1980

PY171627 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 17 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Brasilia--The planning minister has stated that with the measures that have been implemented by the National Monetary Council, the government has forecast a 45-percent inflation rate for this year. According to Delfim Neto, the government took important measures today in order to combat inflation, such as the monetary readjustment of 45 percent and the exchange rate readjustment of 40 percent for 1980.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL MEETS WITH UNIONS, STRIKERS

Unions Present Rights Document

PA221857 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Bogota--A commission of the National Trade Union Council has delivered documents concerning human rights in Colombia to the Amnesty International commission which has been investigating charges of alleged tortures since last week.

The delegates of the country's four most powerful labor centrals harshly criticized the security statute, noting that it restrains labor rights and the freedom to go on strike. They also criticized the workers' loss in purchasing power and the crisis of government mechanisms in facing the situation.

The members of the international organization which defends human rights did not make any comments on what was discussed in the meeting with the country's labor sector.

Finance Ministry Strikers Report

PA221858 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Bogota--The Finance Ministry strikers met yesterday with members of the Amnesty International commission visiting Colombia. The strikers presented a detailed document in which they denounce government repression against the persons who participated in the strike. In the strikers' memorandum to the Amnesty International commission, they note that 1,500 strikers have been arrested and 600 dismissed. They also charge that certain labor leaders have been beaten and attacked. They also request that the Amnesty International commission include a report on the manner in which the government has handled the strike of the Finance Ministry workers.

NAVY DISCLAIMS INCIDENT WITH NICARAGUAN FISHING BOATS

PA231359 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0113 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpts] Bogota, 22 Jan (EFE)--The Colombian Navy tonight warned that it will maintain guard over Caribbean islands and keys and indicated that no incident had taken place with Nicaraguan boats. Instead, it said that Nicaraguan boats had been invited to leave Colombia's territorial sea. The reaction in Bogota followed charges by Nicaraguan Acting Foreign Minister Francisco Fiallos Navarro that "Colombian warships on Monday forced six Nicaraguan boats to leave a fishing area considered to be inside jurisdictional waters."

A Colombian Navy spokesman who asked not to be identified told EFE that warships are patrolling the waters off the Roncador, Quitasueno and Serrana keys as a result of a sea dispute between the two countries. The source said the "alleged incident" between Colombian warships and Nicaraguan fishing boats had occurred during the course of normal patrols by the Colombian Navy which had discovered that the Nicaraguan boats had allegedly violated territorial waters within the 200-mile sea limit. "I would not say it was an incident but a cordial invitation to leave Colombia's territorial sea since the Nicaraguan fishermen violated the 200-mile sea limit probably without realizing it," the military spokesman said.

Ministry Denies Territorial Violation

PA231707 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Bogota--The Defense Ministry has denied that Colombian warships violated Nicaraguan territorial waters as was stated in a report originating in Managua. According to this report, Colombian Navy ships reportedly had intercepted six Nicaraguan fishing boats and seized their cargo near the San Andres and Providencia islands, Colombian possessions located approximately 80 miles off the Nicaraguan coast.

Defense Minister Luis Carlos Camacho Leiva affirmed that no violation of Nicaraguan territorial waters had occurred. On the contrary, he said, we have airborne units and warships patrolling the Carribean but they are doing so in order to defend our national sovereignty. The areas of the Caribbean in question, which were granted to Colombia by a 1928 treaty, are being claimed by the Sandinist regime which has extended its territorial sea limit to 200 miles.

NICARAGUA REFUSES TO AID YACHT IN DISTRESS

PA231400 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0157 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 22 Jan (EFE)--The Nicaraguan Government refused to help a Colombian-registered yacht which declared itself in distress in Caribbean waters over the weekend, the CARACOL radio network reported here tonight. The report added that the yacht, which was on a cruise of the Caribbean, had been adrift in waters near Nicaragua since the weekend due to engine trouble. After declaring itself in distress, the yacht carrying 40 people, including passengers and crew members, asked for help from a Nicaraguan naval station. The station refused to come to the aid of the yacht. The incident which the control tower of the San Andres and Providencia airport learned of occurred prior to Monday's incident between Colombian warships and Nicaraguan fishing boats in the Caribbean Sea.

TURBAY SAYS SCARCE FOODS WILL BE IMPORTED

PA222211 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Bogota--President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala today announced a plan to import foods which have become scarce as a result of speculation and hoarding. The importation will be authorized immediately and will be handled by the Agricultural-Cattle Marketing Institute [IDEMA], Turbay Ayala announced. He guaranteed that the supply of food will be normal throughout the year and that prices will remain stable. Products which present even the least sign of scarcity will be imported by IDEMA, he stated in his speech at the agricultural-cattle commodity exchange.

The president urged the industrialists who handle food processing companies to maintain moderate prices and establish fair profit margins to lessen the effect on consumers. The recent minimum wage increase will encourage people to buy more, he maintained.

NEW PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL OF STATE DEFENDS AUTONOMY

PA232256 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Bogota--Jaime Bethancourt Cuarta, new president of the Council of State, vigorously defended the autonomy of the council today denying reports that government officials have repeatedly exerted pressure to make the council rule in favor of the executive branch. He said that he will do everything possible to prevent government interference in the decisions that the Council of State makes. He added that council members will always act ethically. Bethancourt Cuarta, former president of the Chamber of Representatives and a Conservative Party member, was appointed yesterday.

STUDENT DIES IN QUITO PROTESTS; CLASSES SUSPENDED

PA231927 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Text] This morning students of several schools in Quito once again took to the streets to protest the high cost of living. A student of the Benito Juarez School was killed. A fellow fifth-year student identified him as Gilberto Sanchez.

In view of these events, the Education Ministry once again suspended classes in Quito. Here is a report from the Education Ministry's public relations office: [Begin recording of unidentified Education Ministry spokesman] In view of well-known events and to safeguard the lives of students and the public in general, the Education and Culture Ministry has decided to once again suspend educational activities until there are sufficient guarantees for the normal development of school activities. Nelson (Pinereta), the national director of education, has announced that this measure is in effect for all preschool, elementary and secondary schools of Quito. [end recording]

Further Details

PA240429 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0149 GMT 24 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Quito, 23 Jan (LATIN)--Incidents in the streets between students and policemen intensified here tonight after a high school student today became the second victim of protests over the high cost of living.

Despite heroic efforts by the police, who resorted to the use of tear gas and firetrucks, there was chaos in the colonial section of Quito as night approached. The groups of students, which practically surrounded the area in which the Government Palace is located, halted traffic and forced many businesses to close. Barricades were raised and large bonfires lit in several parts of the city which, because of its location at an altitude of 2,800 meters in the Andean chain, has a difficult traffic system.

Student Gilberto Sanchez, 15, was shot to death when the demonstrations began, while two of his companions were wounded. The youths blamed an unidentified policeman, who was reportedly attacked with stones, for the fatal shooting.

On 10 January, another high school student was shot to death by a police lieutenant who is currently under arrest.

Government (Interior) Minister Roberto Dunn this afternoon urged the youths to remain calm and appealed to parents to keep their children off the streets. Dunn accused "unthinking" elements who are the "traditional enemies of order" of inciting the students to protest.

Meanwhile, official spokesman announced that President Jaime Roldos tonight began an emergency meeting with his ministerial team to analyze the critical situation.

LEFTWING FRONT ATTACKS ROLDOS ADMINISTRATION

PA220405 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 1225 GMT 21 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The Leftwing Broad Front [FADI], in making an analysis of the present administration, has stated: The Roldos regime, sunk in a political crisis and lacking definition during its 5 months in power, has been moving farther away from the popular and democratic propositions it claimed to defend in the elections and has put the country at the service of oligarchic, bourgeois and imperialist interests.

Referring to the increase in the cost of staples, the FADI said that as of December the family budget has been hit and the salary increase that was the result of a lengthy struggle has been threatened because it has never been enough to compensate for the overexploitation and misery to which the people were submitted as a result of the economic policies of past dictatorships.

It accused the government of having turned the government's economic policies over to imperialism, the oil companies and the dominant class. It referred to recent events, characterizing them as a clear demonstration that the government has a reactionary and rightist policy that has earned the general rejection of our people.

CUSTOMS CONFISCATES SHIPMENT OF WEAPONS

PA220227 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 21 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The following is a text of a communique issued this afternoon by the government minister regarding the confiscation of 291 weapons from Argentina which has been sent to Ecuador as spare parts. The weapons, 125 (Dagual) .22 caliber revolvers, and 96 (Persa) .22 caliber pistols, were discovered at the airport when a worker was loading the crates, which supposedly contained spare parts, into a vehicle.

On learning of the weapons, Government Minister Roberto Dunn Barreiro confiscated them and ordered a full investigation to determine if the weapons are linked in any way to the recent disorders, which the government has blamed on extreme leftist and rightist agitators. The government and defense ministries are investigating to find the persons behind the contraband.

The confiscated weapons came from Buenos Aires and were brought in aboard an Ecuatoriana de Aviacion plane. They were in five crates consigned to two companies, whose existence is being determined.

Customs director Manuel Rodriguez reported the find to the government minister and asked for help to investigate the incident. The minister inspected the confiscated weapons and ordered strict security measures throughout the country to prevent any further attempts to introduce weapons. The customs official said the crates containing the weapons were consigned to two different persons, M. Cordoba, and M. Escobar. Military intelligence and customs officials are trying to establish the identity of the alleged firms to whom the crates were consigned.

MINISTER OUTLINES STAPLE SUPPLY POLICY

PA211948 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 1255 GMT 21 Jan 80 PA

[Statement by Agriculture and Livestock Minister Antonio Andrade Fajardo--recorded; date and place not given]

[Excerpt] We now present a statement by Agriculture and Livestock Minister Antonio Andrade Fajardo concerning the marketing of staples:

[Begin recording] In all places where the national enterprise for vital products has sales stands there is enough rice and sugar and, beginning tomorrow, there will be the necessary milk and other vital products. In other words it can be said supplies are altogether normal. We have also already concluded a contract with Venezuela for 10,000 more tons of rice and will enter into additional contracts if necessary to maintain supplies. This is a matter of concern for the government. [end recording]

EL MUNDO REAFFIRMS CASTRO SHOOTOUT STORY

PA232202 Paris AFP in Spanish 2118 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpt] Caracas, 23 Jan (AFP)--The situation in Havana remained a total mystery today, 24 hours after a Caracas newspaper, in a front-page article, reported that Cuban President Fidel Castro had been slightly injured in a shootout on 10 January, in which Celia Sanchez, his secretary, had died.

In today's edition, the newspaper EL MUNDO again refers to this episode to reaffirm its version of the incidents--attributed to unidentified Venezuelan Foreign Ministry sources--and to point out that this version has been neither confirmed nor denied.

Raul Castro, the former Cuban defense minister as well as Fidel's brother, is said to have participated in the shootout, which came in the wake of a dispute between the two brothers in connection with a project to send Cuban troops to Afghanistan, EL MUNDO recalls in its new article, which is no less sansationalist than the one published yesterday.

The Caracas government has played down the importance of EL MUNDO's alleged scoop, but so far it has avoided any formal denials. The Venezuelan Embassy in Havana, for its part, has merely stated that it is disconcerted over EL MUNDO's report. The other Venezuelan papers have limited themselves to reporting the issue through the various news agencies' reports.

EL MUNDO reported that Raul Castro has apparently not been seen again in Havana, that travelers arriving from Cuba affirm that something strange is happening in the capital and that its report on Tuesday made news all over the world. Cuban Ambassador to Caracas Norberto Hernandez Curbelo has not yet returned to his duties.

Zambrano Terms Story 'Speculation'

PA232155 Caracas VENPRES in Spanish 2134 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Caracas, 23 Jan (VENPRES)--Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco today termed newspaper reports about an alleged incident in Havana in which Cuban President Fidel Castro reportedly was wounded as "speculation."

Speaking with journalists after having lunch in the Miraflores Palace with the prime minister of Montserrat, the foreign minister employed a term used by newsmen and said that this is a matter "of speculation." He added: "This is what all the news media has noted." The journalists had asked the foreign minister about this subject because the report in the evening newspaper EL MUNDO was based on "diplomatic sources."

ENERGY MINISTER SAYS SPOT MARKET PRICES GOING DOWN

PA221455 Caracas VENPRES in Spanish 0812 GMT 22 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Caracas, 21 Jan (VENPRES)--Energy and Mines Minister Humberto Calderon Berti today said at the end of a meeting of the economic cabinet that the price of petroleum in the spot market "is going down." Calderon Berti indicated that a shipment of crude had been sold on the Rotterdam market at $35 a barrel which shows that the "spot market prices are going down." Oil prices reached up to $45 a barrel before the December OPEC conference in Caracas. The minister urged the industrialized countries to consume less energy and implement plans and policies to reduce domestic fuel consumption. Venezuela does not participate in the spot market because it sells its oil through contracts.

CALDERON BERTI EXPLAINS NEW OIL CONTRACTS

PA180022 Paris AFP in Spanish 0306 GMT 16 Jan 80 PA

[By Jose Antonio Puertas]

[Text] Caracas, 15 Jan (AFP)--Energy and Mines Minister Humberto Calderon Berti said here today that 4 years after the nationalization of the oil industry Venezuela has drastically cut its dependence on technology and marketing with the signing of new [technical] assistance and trade contracts. Venezuela canceled most of the technical assistance contracts with the former concessionaires, signed new ones with companies or institutes in Europe and Canada and eliminated the confidentiality clauses which prevented the national companies from sharing technological solutions they acquired with the others, the minister said.

When Venezuela nationalized the oil industry on 1 January 1976 it signed technical assistance contracts with the 12 foreign companies that operated the industry. The only contracts still in effect of those 12 are the ones signed with the U.S. companies Exxon, Gulf and Sun Oil, and with the British-Dutch company Shell.

Meanwhile, new contracts or agreements for technical assistance and research--of a general nature as well as for specific projects--have been signed with engineering concerns not connected with the former concessionaires but with universities and institutes in France, the FRG, Canada, England and the United States. The payment for this technical assistance, which amounted to an average of 20 cents per barrel of oil produced and/or refined in the country, was eliminated and the principle of payment for services truly rendered, measured in man-hours, has been implemented. According to Calderon Berti, this is a 40-percent savings on the cost, approximately $100 million-$160 million per year.

Regarding trade contracts, Venezuela reserved for itself the right to change prices at any time, notifying its customers only 5 days in advance instead of quarterly for crudes and monthly for refined products as was the case in previous contracts. Companies that reject the new price will have their supply cut off immediately and will no longer be able to buy Venezuelan crude, Calderon Berti warned. The old contracts allowed foreign companies to reject increases and forced national companies to continue supplying crude or refined products for a minimum of 3 months at a price which could not be more than 5 percent of the previous price.

The new contracts established a clause certifying destination in order to prevent them from feeding the spot market. They also established a 1-year period for the duration of the contracts for light crudes and 2 years for heavy crudes and eliminated the tolerance on volume sales which allowed contractors to ask for as much as 10 percent more than the amount agreed on. Venezuela will also demand that payment for its oil be made on a 30-day basis from now on instead of 60 days. This will result in an additional profit of between (?$0.10 and $0.20) per barrel, the minister estimated.

Half of the Venezuelan oil sales are being made to clients other than the former concessionaires--which purchased 83 percent of the export volume 4 years ago--effective 1 January. The number of clients rose from 61 to 93 over the past year. Sales are made from government to government when possible. All clients receive less than 50,000 barrels of oil per day except for three former concessionaires.

In conclusion, the minister noted that all buyers of light crudes or refined products must also buy heavy crudes, which make up most of the Venezuelan reserves. Venezuela, which produced 2.4 million barrels per day in 1979, will gradually reduce this level to 2.2 million in 1980 and the reduction will be applied to the light crudes, Calderon Berti added.

ROYO SEEKS DOCUMENTS FROM IRAN, DENIES SHAH'S ARREST

PA240138 Panama City ACAN Spanish 0055 GMT 24 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpt] The local RPC Television Channel 4, quoting sources close to the former shah of Iran, has reported that the former monarch has had a perfectly normal day at his Contadora Island residence. A spokesman for the Pahlavi family has denied in Panama the Tehran reports about the arrest of the shah and noted that the monarch has slept well.

The shah's arrest is one of the most important conditions set forth for the release of the approximately 50 U.S. hostages in Tehran. The hostages have been held for almost 3 months.

The following is a text of the message President Royo sent to the Islamic Council of the Revolution: "Mr Mohammad Reza Pahlavi remains under the care [cuidado] of Panama's security authorities and the appropriate precautionary measures have been adopted in our national territory.

"Regarding the extradition of the former shah, we hereby inform you that consistent with Article 4 of Law 44 of 1930 on public international law, the following documents, which must be legalized and duly authenticated, are necessary: a copy of the arrest order issued by the authorities of Iran; all the necessary information to verify the identity of the person being extradicted; a copy of the legal dispositions that apply.

"If the above documents are presented within 60 days, the extradition demand will be accepted as formal and the executive will proceed to consider it and later decide on it. [sentence as received]

"We trust that Panama's attitude, which tries to abide by the principles of international law by agreeing to process the demands, will cause the people and Government of Iran to follow our example and release the hostages since this is seriously affecting peaceful coexistence among the nations."

The note is signed by Panamanian President Aristides Royo.

Qotbzadeh Believes Arrest Reports

WA240940 London REUTER in English 0840 GMT 24 Jan 80 WA

[Excerpts] Panama City, Jan 24, REUTER--Panamanian President Aristides Royo says the deposed shah of Iran is being guarded by security forces, but a government spokesman denies he is under detention.

Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh said in Tehran yesterday that the former monarch was being held by the Panamian Government after the Iranian Government requested his extradition.

But in a cable to Iran's Revolutionary Council released to the press last night, Mr Royo said only that the ex-shah "remains under the care of the security authorities of Panama." Government spokesman Boris Moreno later stressed that this did not mean the ex-shah was in detention.

In Tehran, Foreign Minister Qotbzadeh said today that as far as Iran is concerned the ex-shah is under arrest in Panama. He told a press conference that he received a telex message from Panama's president saying the former Iranian ruler "remains under the care of the Panamanian security authorities."

Mr Qotbzadeh said he understood that the word "care" referred to the ex-shah's health "Where he is kept is not our primary concern," Mr Qotbzadeh said, adding that the shah's condition meant he could not be moved to jail. "The guy is sick," the minister said. "As far as we are concerned, he is arrested. He cannot leave the country without the specific authorization of the Panamanian Government." As for the next step, the minister said: "We go ahead with the procedure and we get the shah back."

Arrest Again Officially Denied

WA240209 London REUTER in English 0240 GMT 24 Jan 80 WA

[Excerpts] Panama City, Jan 23, REUTER--A Panamanian Government spokesman denied tonight an Iranian claim that the deposed shah of Iran was under detention in Panama. "The ex-shah is not under detention," Boris Moreno told reporters. He had been asked to clarify a cable from President Aristides Royo to the Iranian Revolutionary Council saying the shah was "under the care of Panamanian security authorities."

A copy of Mr Royo's cable to Iranian authorities was issued to reporters after a day of confusion caused by a statement by Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh in Tehran. Mr. Qotbzadeh said the former monarch had been detained by the Panamanian Government after an Iranian request for his extradition. The Panamanian foreign minister denied the report, the presidential office initially refused to comment and the Justice Ministry said it had received no order for the shah's detention.

An official Panamanian statement, made after an emergency Cabinet meeting, said Mr Royo cabled Iran's Revolutionary Council that the shah" remains under the care of Panamanian security authorities, in accordance with precautionary measures relevant in our national territory in relation with the request of the Government of Iran that proceedings be started for the extradition of the ex-shah.

Official Announcement Made

PA240302 Paris AFP in Spanish 0248 GMT 24 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpt] Panama City, 23 Jan (AFP)--The shah of Iran is absolutely free and has never been arrested nor kept under house arrest, the official spokesman from the Panamanian presidency today told AFP. This announcement puts an end to the long suspense caused by the repeated reports by the Iranian foreign minister to the effect that the former ruler had been arrested in Panama.

EL SALVADOR

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON VIOLENCE FOLLOWING PROTEST MARCH

Sniping, Bombings Reported

PA231449 Paris AFP in English 1423 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, Jan. 23 (AFP)--A bomb was planted near the residence of the American ambassador last night after at least 13 people were killed yesterday during the biggest mass demonstration in El Salvador's history.

More than 100 were wounded in shooting between snipers and armed leftists escorting the demonstrators, who were protesting against policies of the moderate colonels who overthrew the right-wing regime of President Carlos Humberto Romero last October 15.

Several other bombs exploded late in the night (between 0300 and 0400 GMT today) in poor neighbourhoods, and shots were heard. Observers believed the bombings might be a reprisal by extreme leftists for the sniping.

No police were visible during yesterday's demonstration by 100,000 people. But the People's Revolutionary Bloc accused police of starting the shooting.

Groups of insurgents tried to mount an assault on the Central Police Barracks. Army helicopters [word indistinct] overhead while young men built street barricades with cars and buses. Most demonstrators fled to [word indistinct] for shelter.

A few (?youths) with rifles of various calibers looted several stores and paralyzed traffic for hours.

A dozen newsmen, one of them wounded, had to be evacuated by the Red Cross from a church that police barred refugees from leaving.

Police, Army Patrol Streets

PA231554 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1424 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 23 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Heavy shooting broke out in the eastern part of the University of (?El) Salvador in the northern section of the capital at dawn. Shots were fired from the campus too. The incident lasted about 45 minutes. It began around 0500. There are some wounded and maybe even some bodies on campus, where more than 20,000 peasants and students are supposed to be quartered. The Red Cross is having problems getting them out of the area. The residential areas close to the university are being patrolled by combined police and army forces in personnel carriers and heavily armed military trucks.

A radio network was instituted to call on the people to remain calm. It says that international communism wants to take over El Salvador, a nation that is trying to make changes within a democratic framework.

Many people are wondering whether the feared and expected civil war has not started already. Capital city residents are obsessed mainly with getting food supplies by whatever means. Queues at the stores continued this morning as on Monday and Tuesday in some calmer areas of the city.

Northern section residents have been unable to go to work on account of the street patrols and the tension is felt out in the streets.

The leftist groups that were attacked with gunfire as they were staging a peaceful demonstration yesterday have declared a 3-day mourning period starting today. They plan to go out into the streets again today to bury 11 of their number. The mourners will leave for the cemetery from the cathedral and many are scared other regrettable incidents will occur because of the prevailing tension.

The government junta, composed of young military officers and Christian Democratic Party members, released a communique regretting the loss of valuable lives during Tuesday's incidents. The junta will allow peaceful demonstrations. Therefore, today's burial poses no major legal problem.

Many local commentators feel that the current confrontation in El Salvador is between the extreme right and left, and that the government and the armed forces are right in the middle. However, others feel that in the hour of truth the government will aline itself against the armed extreme leftwing groups which, as they themselves claim, are trying to seize power by force.

Peasants Leave University Campus

PA232031 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1813 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[By Adrian Roberto Aldana]

[Text] San Salvador, 23 Jan (LATIN)--The army this morning left the University of El Salvador campus a few hours after it had tried to evacuate hundreds of peasants from there following yesterday's topsy-turvy demonstration which left a toll of 11 dead.

Members of the National Revolutionary Coordination Body meanwhile today buried the 11 victims shot [yesterday] in front of the National Palace and the Metropolitan Cathedral where at least 30 people were also seriously injured, according to official statistics.

According to the Presidential House, the security forces that entered the university at dawn today withdrew a few hours later to let the peasants peacefully leave the campus to return to their townships.

According to an official report, the entry onto the campus was ordered to prevent new clashes since armed individuals were supposed to be inside "who might go out into the streets to pursue the disturbances" as occurred yesterday. Following the evacuation no weapons were reported to have been found on campus and no arrests were made.

After the street disturbances yesterday, police reported that all night and early today there were bomb explosions in several homes and unidentified individuals staged an attack on the University of El Salvador and on a police post. The blasts were reported at the homes of former Vice President Francisco R. Lima and Alfredo Menlagos. Two private automobiles also exploded. No casualties were reported. Police also reported unidentified individuals attacked the police station in Zacamil residential area at dawn, shortly before the army entered the university.

Spokesmen for the National Revolutionary Coordination Body insisted today that the number of dead during yesterday's demonstration was more than the officially reported 11. However, the Isidro Mendez legal center which identified the victims confirmed that figure.

An official report noted that after the police force left the campus--about 5 hectares housing 2 dozen new school buildings--the army was ordered to stop cordoning off the area and to remove the antiriot personnel carriers and weapons.

It was also reported that as of today there will be intensive patrolling of the entire national territory "to guarantee peace."

JUNTA MEMBERS SUPPORT RETURN TO NORMALCY

PA221640 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 16 Jan 80 pp 3, 53 PA

[Text] Col Jaime Abdul Gutierrez said yesterday at the Presidential House that "El Salvador will find the path to peace if all sectors contribute to this and set aside violence and rancor."

Colonel Gutierrez presided over the swearing-in of five new ministers and several government officials. He asked them for unity, enthusiasm, loyalty, sincerity and great efforts to overcome the country's current situation.

Questioned about the threat of a civil war in El Salvador, he said it will not occur if all Salvadorans contribute to preventing it. He added that violence cannot be eliminated overnight. He said this takes time. He gave the example of several Central American countries and other nations in the world where violence had been rampant but where, with the passing of time, peace has been established.

On being interviewed, Dr Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich and Hector Dada Hirezi, members of the revolutionary government junta, also agreed with Gutierrez. The three members of the junta told the press that the efforts being carried out to return the situation to normal are sincere and deserve the consideration of all political sectors and subversive groups which are fighting for their own interests but have the obligation of working for the good of the country.

Morales Ehrlich announced a complete reorganization of the country's economic, social and political sectors. We will give priority, he said, to agrarian reform and the nationalization of banks and foreign trade, which have never been at the service of the masses. It is urgent and necessary that we achieve the well-being of the Salvadoran people if we want to avoid worse evils, Morales Ehrlich added.

All members of the Cabinet, he said, have the duty as patriots of promoting their programs of health, education, agrarian reform, housing and other fields which will benefit the Salvadoran people and overcome the underdevelopment experienced for many years.

The junta member indicated that the government will carry out a policy of dialog and understanding with the popular and union organizations.

He also said measures to protect the embassies and diplomats in the country have been implemented.

Dada Hirezi said a whole system of oppression must be dismantled for the good of the country. We cannot speak of changes if these do not favor the masses, he stressed.

Questioned on the abrogation of the Constitution, he said the revolutionary government junta is studying the drafting of a constitutional statute. This is quite different from abrogating the 1962 Constitution.

STATION COMMENTS ON CHANGE IN ARMED FORCES' ATTITUDE

PA221453 San Salvador LA VOZ PANAMERICANA in Spanish 1837 GMT 21 Jan 80 PA

[Commentary: "The Armed Forces Openings"]

[Excerpt] For most of us civilians, the armed forces were a big mystery before 15 October 1979. In the course of the military insurrection staged that day, several internal problems of that powerful and apparently monolithic institution came to light.

We became acquainted with the faces and ideas of the young military officers' mystic movement. We saw them on television and we heard their proclamations and statements. We were able to appreciate that the Salvadoran Armed Forces are also very much aware of our national problems, of the protests of a people fed up with being exploited, and of the reaction of a cruel and intransigent minority.

Fortunately, the armed forces reflect the Salvadoran society to which they have historically belonged. This proves that the armed forces are participating in the social drama that El Salvador is currently experiencing and that, in the final analysis, their survival depends on whether or not they take the historic path, on whether or not they take the path of unity alongside people who are increasingly uniting to achieve their own survival as a people.

In recent days we have seen important evidence that this national drama is reflected within the armed forces. Last week, El Salvador was ripe with rumors that the young military officers were insistently demanding changes in the armed forces' High Command. If these rumors are true, it means the young military officers have remained vigilant, dissatisfied and concerned over the course of their movement. It would mean there are elements within the army who will not rest or be satisfied until a truly radical and stable solution is given to the problems affecting the country's large majorities.

These officers will continue seeking a truly popular solution and will ultimately move closer to the only ones who can truly offer it. But to achieve this definitive rapprochement with the people's organizations and their leaders.

Another interesting development is Monsignor Romero's inclusion in yesterday's sermon of the demands made by a group of soldiers. It is a known fact that the Monsignor never reads letters or messages of questionable origin. What he read yesterday undoubtedly represents the feelings of a group of Salvadoran soldiers, who have sufficient awareness and are capable of saying out loud what every honest soldier, guard or policeman must feel. The Salvadoran soldiers' message is truly impressive. They are the ones who, without knowing why, are sent to kill and repress other people without obtaining any material or other advantage. Perhaps there is no more humiliating form of exploitation and alienation than that to which soldiers and policemen are subjected when they are hired to repress their own brothers, risking their lives and dignity for a miserable wage.

There are some 15,000 Salvadorans who, knowingly or not, spoke for the first time yesterday through the voice of Monsignor Romero, who has always spoken for those who are voiceless.

That proclamation by the Salvadoran soldiers is worthy of the attention and efforts of all those who worry about the people, because the soldiers and other officers of the armed forces and the security forces are, both individually and personally, people who need to free themselves from their profound alienation.

RESERVE BANK PRESIDENT DEFENDS BANK NATIONALIZATIONS

PA231410 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2354 GMT 21 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Pedro Abelardo Delgado, the new president of the Salvadoran Central Reserve Bank, today announced that the Salvadoran banks will be nationalized. He added that whatever the scope of the nationalization decided by the government, it will not affect the ownership or free use of the deposits of the public. He added that the measure will promote an increase of Salvadoran savings which can help finance the country's development process.

The official previously worked at the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in Washington. He said the nationalization of the banking system has been thoroughly studied for quite some time.

He also said the revolutionary government junta's decision will encourage political measures which will guarantee the country adequate domestic liquidity and sufficient availability of international reserves for the purpose of strengthening monetary stability. He stressed this will enable the achievement of the goals established by the junta with regard to the economic and social reforms the country needs.

He also said the current drain of capital is not alarming and that special measures are being adopted to prevent its continuation.

GUATEMALA

ANTICOMMUNIST DEPUTIES CRITICIZE BOWDLER VISITS

PA231315 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2206 GMT 22 Jan 80 PA

[By Mauricio Barrera]

[Text] Guatemala City, 22 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--William Bowdler, the new U.S. assistant secretary for inter-American affairs, is on an observation tour to Central America which has caused unrest among some local politicians.

"Wherever Bowdler is, there are problems," a deputy of the anticommunist national liberation movement said here today. He pointed out that Bowdler played a definite role in the fall of Anastasio Somoza.

Bowdler, whom the Guatemalan press calls "eagle eye," today ended a brief visit to this capital and then left for Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

In Guatemala City, Bowdler talked to President Gen Romeo Lucas, to Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdes, to Government Minister Donaldo Alvarez Ruiz and to Cardinal Msgr Mario Casariego.

Nothing has been released to the press here about what was discussed during his visit. The U.S. Embassy said only that his visit is connected to his new duties.

"Bowdler is a bad omen," Guatemalan anticommunist deputies said. They accused the United States of abandoning its old allies in the region and said this has allowed the left to gain ground. They also mentioned the fact that Bowdler was in charge of the State Department desk on Cuba when Fidel Castro took power; that he presided over the negotiations which ended with the fall of Somoza and the access to power in Nicaragua of the Sandinist National Liberation Front and that he has been present in El Salvador where the current crisis is about to break out into a civil war.

Local observers believe Bowdler is now exploring the northern sector of Central America in order to find a way for the Salvadoran military junta to face the leftist groups which have risen up in arms; to view the current situation in Guatemala and the stability attributed to the Honduran military who are in power.

JESUITS RECEIVE DEATH THREATS FROM ASA

PA231325 Paris AFP in English 1257 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, Jan. 23 (AFP)--The worried Jesuit hierarchy of Guatemala held a meeting here yesterday concerning a threat to kill all Jesuit priests in the country by the rightwing Anticommunist Secret Army (ASA). The death threat came after a newspaper statement by the Jesuits denouncing violations of human rights in Guatemala.

In response to Jesuit fears, the government has repeated its earlier charge that the Jesuit order was a "(?liaison) agent" between "foreign enemies" and "Marxist subversives".

NICARAGUA

COLOMBIAN NAVY INTERFERENCE WITH FISHING BOATS PROTESTED

PA240008 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Protest note by Nicaraguan Foreign Affairs Ministry to Diego Uribe Vargas, Colombian foreign affairs minister, issued on 22 January in Managua, as read by Francisco Fiallo Navarro, acting Nicaraguan foreign affairs minister--recorded]

[Text] It is my duty to convey the following message from the Nicaraguan Foreign Affairs Ministry to Your Excellency, Diego Uribe Vargas, Colombian foreign affairs minister.

I regret that I must address Your Excellency in order to submit to the illustrious Colombian Government the strongest protest from the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, concerning the aggression carried out yesterday against Nicaraguan fishing boats in Nicaraguan territorial waters by warships sailing under the Colombian flag. The aggression took place in the Caribbean Sea, about 100 to 120 miles from our coast, between 14 and 15 degrees latitude north and 82 degrees 30 minutes longitude west of the Greenwich meridian.

Our fishing boats were forced to give up their nets with an abundant catch, part of the meager resources that the revolutionary government has for export.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Affairs Ministry wants Your Excellency to know that the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction considers this incident an act of aggression which we denounce as an unjustified provocation. We are immediately taking the necessary measures to recover the nets with the catch.

We are especially bringing this incident to Your Excellency's attention to prevent further intervention by the Colombian Navy in legitimate Nicaraguan business. The Colombian Navy's unjustified action is contrary to the traditional and fraternal relations that have always existed between the people and governments of Nicaragua and Colombia.

Our government is justified in firmly demanding that hostile acts on the part of Colombia cease and that any conflict that could exist between our countries be solved within the norms of international law based on the cordial relations and coexistence that should prevail between the two neighboring countries.

My government expects to receive from the illustrious Colombian Government not just an adequate explanation, but the assurance that such an act of aggression will not occur again and guarantee that Nicaraguan boats can sail undisturbed in our territorial waters, exploiting the sea wealth which is part of our resources.

Reiterating my highest esteem to Your Excellency, Francisco Fiallos Navarro, acting foreign affairs minister.

Complaint to Colombian Ambassador

PA240009 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpts] Nicaragua has reported an act of aggression by Colombia. Colombian warships forced six Nicaraguan fishing boats to abandon the fishing grounds where they were at dawn Monday in waters which are considered to be under Nicaraguan jurisdiction.

The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has reported that the government has instructed the captains of the boats which were victims of the aggression by the Colombian frigates to return to the area of the incident and recover the fish traps or nets and the substantial catch they had obtained despite the presence of the Colombian ships.

The authorities of the Nicaraguan Fishing Institute are still in contact with the captains and we expect the Colombian ships will allow them to exercise a sovereign right because the incident took place only 120 miles from Puerto Cabezas, acting Foreign Minister Francisco Fiallos Navarro said during a news conference.

During the news conference with local reporters and foreign correspondents, acting Foreign Minister Fiallos read the note containing the strong protest of the Managua government to the Bogota government, delivered here to Colombian Ambassador Fernando Navas de Brigard.

The Nicaraguan acting foreign minister added that a Colombian military aircraft flew over the Nicaraguan vessels which were forced to abandon the patrolling grounds. The Nicaraguan official expressed confidence that this new incident will not set a precedent, hoping Colombia will permit the Nicaraguan fishing activities to continue in that area of shallow waters over the Nicaraguan continental shelf, as it has been a traditional fishing ground for our fishermen.

Fiallos reiterated that Nicaragua is not a warring nation and that we want to find a solution to the problem through legal channels, as has been stated by the members of our governing junta.

Recently, Nicaraguan jurist Luis Pasos Arguello charged at a news conference that Colombia is actually trying to get its hands on the oil existing in this part of our country's continental shelf. He also pointed out to the group of Andean Pact nations the imperialistic attitude of Colombia which, (?supporting) the principle of the 200-mile territorial waters, denies this right to Nicaragua.

WELFARE MINISTER NOTES LIMITED FOREIGN AID FOR 1980

PA240325 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The assistance Nicaragua will receive in 1980 from friendly countries will be channeled through to food-for-work programs.

During the first half of this year there will be 200,000 jobless persons. For this reason, the aid received so far has been inadequate. Now, Social Welfare Minister Lea Guido de Lopez provides more details.

[Begin Lea Guido recording] For 1980 we have been offered the following aid: The Netherlands has offered $1,250,000 for the food-for-work program. The World Council of Churches $350,000 and the United Nations has offered us 6,300 tons of wheat flour, 630 metric tons of beans and 315 tons of vegetable oil.

The Nicaraguan Natural Resources and Environment Institute [IRENA] has 1,782 tons of rice and 355 metric tons of oil for the months of April and May. Japan has promised us 108 tons of milk, which is equal to approximately $425,160.

This is the aid that has been offered for 1980. It is very little when we compare it with the needs we have at this moment, with approximately 20 percent of the population, or about 200,000 persons, unemployed during the first half of the year.

We are trying, through the (?IDB), to see how we can get more food since there are many persons who have no purchasing power. We are making sure this aid will reach the people through work programs.

At this moment we have reports that our coffee and cotton harvests are experiencing losses because of a lack of help. So there is work. The Social Welfare Ministry, in coordination with the Nicaraguan Agrarian Reform Institute and the Transport Ministry, is trying to give transportation service in neighborhoods so that unemployed persons may go to harvest coffee.

There is work. What we have to do now is to increase production. We must seriously look at production in Nicaragua because this is the only specific way we have for our country to get out of the crisis. We are going to make every effort to pick the cotton before it falls. The same goes for the coffee harvest. In this regard, we call on the mass organizations to organize an emergency program for this effort.

GOLD EXPORTS MAY BECOME SOURCE OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE

PA232307 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[NEW NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY report]

[Text] Gold exports may become a very important source of foreign exchange in 1980, judging from the volume reached in the last 2 months. Since the nationalization of the mines on 2 November, earnings from metal sales have gone directly to the Nicaraguan state and the people. In the past, these benefits were monopolized by Somozism and the transnational companies which, in addition, overexploited workers at the mines.

Between 1 December 1979 and 17 January [1980], Nicaragua exported 20,333 ounces of gold valued at $10,273,085. Sale prices have ranged from $431.25 to $615 an ounce. Mechanisms are already being established for future transactions based on the international price of $840.

In the meantime, a sort of gold rush has arisen on the domestic market too, with gold being quoted at $270 [figure as heard] an ounce.

INSS UNION NAMES NEW BOARD OFFICIALS

PA222312 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Proclaiming trade unionist and revolutionary concepts, over 400 workers of the Nicaraguan Social Security Institute [INSS] formed the institution's new trade union.

The meeting at which the union was formed climaxed an organizing and consciousness-raising process that began on 19 July, when the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] defeated the dictatorship.

A workers council was formed at the INSS during the days following the FSLN victory. This council assumed responsibility for laying the groundwork of a free and revolutionary union movement.

Alberto Valdes, a young and popular leader, spoke at the meeting. He attended it as a delegate of the FSLN vanguard. Valdes underscored the need for unity among the workers in order to move forward with the nation's reconstruction and eradicate hunger, illiteracy and economic dependence. He warned the workers against the maneuvers of counterrevolutionary ultraleftist organizations which are bent on disrupting the already weak national economy and pitting the workers against the vanguard.

He said it is important to do away with the stereotype depicting the government as employer, because all of us must struggle in the new Nicaragua to augment production for the benefit of the entire people.

Delving into the role of a union like that of the INSS workers within the revolutionary process 6 months after victory, the FSLN representative said they must fight bureaucratization, squandering, reactionary positions and individualism.

INSS General Director Reinaldo Antonio Tefel also spoke at the meeting. He said there was no better way to celebrate the first 6 months of the revolution's victory at the INSS than to form this workers organization. He urged the union leadership to work for the revolution's great goals such as national reconstruction, economic reactivation, national unity and the literacy campaign.

The board of the INSS workers Union will be composed as follows: General Coordinator, Omar Aguilar; responsible for organization, Gregorio Ramirez; responsible for publication, Alfonso Gutierrez; responsible for labor representation, Enrique Sanchez; responsible for foreign relations, Glenda Frixione; responsible for culture, Gloria Montalban; responsible for finances, Raul Rocha; responsible for social security and welfare, Sergio Rubi.

The INSS Workers Union is receiving counseling from the Sandinist Workers Central.

OUTLOOK FOR COLLECTIVE PRODUCTION UNITS NOT GOOD

PA230141 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 15 Jan 80 p 5 PA

[Text] The collective Production Units (UPC), created shortly after the revolutionary victory to satisfy a priority need for the production of basic grains, have tended to disappear, said Francisco Lopez, in charge of the organization of the Farm Workers' Association (ATC).

The UPC, Lopez added, works on land confiscated from Somozists, land which actually belongs to the state, and it will be up to the Nicaraguan Agrarian Reform Institute (INRA) to decide on the fate of this production method.

The companeros working in these production units have no land of their own. In the past they rented small parcels, which made them semiproletarians or farm workers.

INRA will decide on what is to be done with these lands; whether they will become part of the state farms, in which case the companeros working in the UPC will become farm workers, or whether they will become Sandinist farming communes where production and working equipment are community property.

As Companero Lopez said, most probably this type of production will probably disappear, to be replaced by the implementation of two types of cooperatives. The first is the simplest one: cooperatives of credits and services where small farmowners associate and organize to obtain financing, technical assistance and marketing of their products.

In this form of cooperative, the companeros continue sowing the land individually and they only get together to obtain financing and technical assistance through Procampo [not further identified], which charges 13 percent annually.

The objective of these cooperatives is to organize the small farmers not only in their financing and technical aspects, but also on the basis of political interests, by raising their political and cultural level so they may participate in the revolutionary process in an organized manner. We find this type of cooperative which is being promoted by the ATC in the northern sector of the country tc be mostly small coffee and basic grain producers.

The second type of cooperative is the Sandinist Farming Communes [Comunas Agricolas Sandinistas], CAS, a more advanced form of organization than the credits and services cooperatives.

In the CAS, the small owners pool their lands and working equipment for the use of the community.

This establishes a higher social awareness where the person no longer thinks in a personal way, but in a collective way, for which great political work is required.

From the social and political viewpoint, production profits are greater in this type of cooperative, where technology can be used more intensively, thus reducing production costs.

COFFEE CROP IMPROVED OVER OUTPUT OF RECENT YEARS

PA232254 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Companero Jorge Hueso, responsible for the coffee department of Agroinra [not further identified], has reported that 80 percent of the coffee crop has been picked thus far. He said the quality of the golden rain being obtained is better than in previous years.

Hueso added that 109,000 quintals of coffee have been delivered at the ports and 306,000 quintals have been received at the processing mills to date. He said the state farms are selling the entire harvest to the Nicaraguan coffee enterprise, which takes charge of exportation and sales arrangements.

REPORTAGE ON ALLEGED SHOOTOUT BETWEEN CASTRO BROTHERS

Fidel in 'Good Condition'

PA232025 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1947 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[By Angel Antonio Garcia Munoz]

[Text] Havana, 23 Jan (EFE)--Fidel Castro is in good physical condition. Members of the EFE staff in Cuba personally saw him on Monday. President Castro was returning from his Central Committee office and taking a peaceful drive in his car near the seawall which surrounds part of Havana. He was not being protected by special security measures.

His personal security guards' car was in front of Fidel's car and behind him was a black Mercedes Benz with other members of his escort.

The persons who were in the [word indistinct] were able to see that the Cuban President was smoking a big cigar and reading some papers.

Meanwhile unofficial Cuban sources told EFE that there was no confrontation between Fidel and Raul Castro and that the first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba was not wounded.

Those sources, who asked not to be identified, were duly authorized to make a denial of yesterday's report by the Caracas newspaper EL MUNDO which said that Fidel Castro had been wounded 11 days ago.

EFE journalists have tried since early today to obtain a statement from the foreign press department of the Foreign Ministry without success.

The alleged attack on Fidel Castro was rumored during the first few days of January in Havana, but the rumors intensified following the death of Celia Sanchez. On this occasion one recalls the statements by unofficial Cuban sources which said that the state security did not then rule out the existence of a plot against Fidel Castro--a plot which was not carried out.

Ambassador Denies Shooting Report

PA232139 Paris AFP in Spanish 2123 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 23 Jan (AFP)--Cuban Ambassador to Mexico Fernando Lopez Muino today denied reports from Caracas that President Fidel Castro was wounded in a shootout with his brother Raul in which Cuban leader Celia Sanchez was also killed.

The diplomat described the report as completely absurd and gross, since Celia Sanchez died of cancer, which caused the removal of one of her lungs 2 years ago.

Regarding the alleged shootout between the Castro brothers due to differences regarding the possible dispatch of Cuban troops to Afghanistan, the ambassador showed AFP photographs on the front page of GRANMA in which the two brothers form part of an honor guard around Celia Sanchez' coffin.

Moreover, it would be childish to believe that Cuba could send troops to Afghanistan when there are thousands of troops in that country from one of the most powerful armies in the world--the Army of the USSR--Lopez Muino added.

Shooting Report a 'Fabrication'

PA240508 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0451 GMT 24 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpts] Havana, 23 Jan (REUTER)--The Cuban authorities here today described as a fabrication the reports released abroad about am armed incident between President Fidel Castro and his brother, the minister of the armed forces, Raul Castro. The reports are absurd and laughable, according to the authorities' reply to foreign correspondents during a reception. They added that such reports do not even merit an official denial.

Diplomatic circles here today were highly skeptical concerning information about the incident which reportedly took place 11 days ago between Castro and his brother. An official Cuban spokesman noted that such reports are part of a campaign against the government of this nation and added that he was unaware of the government decision concerning an official denial.

A tour taken tonight of key places in the Cuban capital did not reveal any indication of additional guards around buildings such as the headquarters of the Communist Party's Central Committee or the Ministry of the Armed Forces. The general appearance was normal and calm.

Report Termed 'Groundless, Untruthful'

PA231944 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Bogota--The Cuban Embassy in Colombia today described as groundless and untruthful reports carried by a Venezuelan newspaper concerning an alleged confrontation between brothers Fidel and Raul Castro.

According to the newspaper EL MUNDO of Caracas, the Castro brothers had an armed confrontation in which both were hurt. The newspaper, considered sensationalist, added that former Cuban guerrilla Celia Sanchez was killed in the incident.

A spokesman of the Cuban Embassy in Bogota told this newscast that 10 days ago, when the incident allegedly occurred, Fidel and Raul Castro were rendering posthumous homage to Celia Sanchez, who died of cancer. The spokesman added that the famous guerrilla had a lung removed 2 years ago when she became ill.

'Campaign To Damage Prestige'

PA231945 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Bogota--The Cuban Embassy in Colombia attributed the reports on an alleged shootout between brothers Fidel and Raul Castro to a campaign aimed at damaging the prestige of the Cuban Government in the eyes of the world. The version reported by a Caracas newspaper was carried by Colombian newspapers today. Alberto Cabrera, press attache at the Cuban Embassy, noted that this information is not true, adding that Celia Sanchez died of cancer 10 days ago.

[Begin Cabrera recording] She underwent an operation 2 and 1/2 years ago and had a lung removed.

[Question] (Is this report false?)

[Answer] Absolutely.

[Question] Who do you think is responsible for the report?

[Answer] I do not know who came up with this version.

[Question] You were telling me that this is the result of a campaign against the Cuban Government.

[Answer] Well, several campaigns were orchestrated against Cuba during 1979 because of the nonalined summit. The campaigns were aimed at damaging the prestige of Cuba, which now presides over the nonalined movement. Every effort was made to damage the prestige of Cuba, but this was impossible. Great campaigns were launched against it, such as the alleged presence of Soviet troops, the presence of nuclear missiles in Cuba, the use of planes to transport nuclear bombs and so forth. All of this was opportunely denied by the Cuban President. His statements to the American press regarding this were also retransmitted in Colombia. [end recording]

FURTHER CRITICISM OF U.S. PROPOSAL TO BOYCOTT OLYMPICS

FL231510 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 23 Jan 80 FL

[Revolutionary Armed Forces and Interior Ministry Combatants Political Information program]

[Text] In the midst of a belicose hysteria, U.S. President James Carter has attempted to boycott the 1980 Moscow Olympic games and has in fact been defeated. All the sports leaders throughout the world, including the North Americans themselves, have tacitly rejected Carter's policy of blackmailing the Soviet Union through sports.

In Latin America the U.S. administration's proposals to sabotage the Olympic games have been criticized and numerous sports organizations have reiterated that they will participate. (Herman Riecken Houfsanpayo), president of the Central American and Caribbean Sports Organization, opposes what he termed the premeditated use of sports as a tool to achieve certain political goals. Carter has no right to try to prevent the youths of the entire world from meeting in the beautiful Olympic arena without discrimination against race, belief or ideology. This is the general view of the athletes.

China's support of the boycott attempt decreed by the U.S. Government has also been termed absurd. Mexico, Brazil, Peru and Venezuela have opposed Carter's efforts. They have made statements defending the spirit of the Olympic games, and their athletes are training for the Moscow meet in July of this year.

On the European Continent, even in the FRG itself, Carter's malevolent intentions have met with a negative reaction. Irish Lord Michael Killanin, president of the International Olympic Committee [IOC], has asserted to London's daily, London THE TIMES, that the White House chief's threat is disastrous and ill-advised. He added that in proposing the boycott of the Moscow Olympic games, Carter had forgotten that we are not living in the days when the United States used to dictate to other countries what they should do and how to do it. He has fired his weapon and from all indications missed the target.

In Paris, IOC Executive Director (Monique Verlieu) stated that the U.S. President's position is not realistic, and added that if the United States does not participate in the Moscow Olympic games, the holding of the 1984 Olympic games in Los Angeles will be reconsidered.

The Mexican daily, UNO MAS UNO, comments that the inevitable success of the Moscow Olympic games is the real reason for the boycott threat voiced by the United States and Great Britain. The same daily asserts that the Soviet Union's internationalist aid to Afghanistan is a mere excuse and that the capitalist countries are trying to impede a socialist country from gaining prestige by hosting the games.

The first U.S. sports debacle took place in the games held in Montreal. At that time, the United States lost its vanguard position and occupied a position behind the Soviet Union and the GDR. Carter has a premonition that the same thing could happen in Moscow. In the face of the great world rejection of the boycott against the Soviet Union, Carter has been forced to moderate the tone of his public pronouncements. Even in his own country, he has not received the approval he anticipated and has been forced to leave it up to the athletes to decide whether they will go to Moscow.

The 1980 Moscow Olympic games are a reality that neither Carter nor Margaret Thatcher nor the Chinese Maoists will be able to ignore. The world youths will participate in an atmosphere of peace, and sports will be strengthened.

CUBAN COMMUNITY IN CANADA CONDEMNS CONSULATE ATTACK

FL231127 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The Cuban community in Canada has criticized the 14 January terrorist attack on the Cuban consulate in Montreal. The press spokesman of the Pasqual Delgado Association delivered the note which states that the Cubans residing in Canada strongly condemn the use of violence against our institutions, including the diplomatic corps, inasmuch as we believe that violence destroys the basis for understanding and reasonable dialog. The terrorist act, which caused no personal injuries, damaged the facade of the consular building located on Pine Avenue, Montreal.

NICARAGUAN CULTURE MINISTRY OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED

PA240129 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Lisandro Chavez Alfaro, who is in charge of the Nicaraguan Culture Ministry's directorate for the national promotion of art, stated in Havana that the main task of that agency is to bring about an indigenous recovery, that is, a recovery of the people's expressive potential, which had been dormant as a result of U.S. cultural penetration.

In an interview with this station, Chavez Alfaro, who is also a narrator and poet, stressed Cuba's willingness to collaborate with the Nicaraguan Culture Ministry. He also explained that artistic expression is being channeled to the popular culture centers that are currently being organized in Nicaragua. Lisandro Chavez Alfaro has come to Cuba to participate as juror in the House of the Americas' 1980 contest, in the genre of novels.

FPL SPOKESMAN SAYS SALVADORAN STRUGGLE WILL CONTINUE

PA240128 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Humberto Gonzalez, representative of the Salvadoran Farabundo Marti Popular Liberation Forces [FPL] said in Cuba that no demagogic campaign by the ruling classes can check the revolutionary wave in his country. Gonzalez spoke on Tuesday in the Cuban Province of Havana on the occasion of the 48th anniversary of the Salvadoran popular uprising of April 1932, during which over 30,000 peasants and workers were murdered.

The leader stressed that only a people's revolutionary war will return freedom to the Salvadoran people.

A message from the Salva oran Communist Party was also read during the ceremony, reaffirming the determination of the Salvadoran popular forces to fight without respite to end imperialist and oligarchic domination.

Summing up the event, Jorge Gallardo, vice president of the Cuban Institute of Friendship With Peoples, disclosed Washington's maneuvers to restrain the Salvadoran revolution and reaffirmed Cuba's solidarity with the heroic struggle of that sister nation to win final independence.

FIDEL CASTRO SENDS GET-WELL MESSAGE TO TITO

FL221123 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Cuban Councils of State and Ministers President Fidel Castro has sent a message to Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito wishing him a rapid recovery. The message was read last night on the Belgrade television newscast. Other world statesmen and personalities have also sent get-well messages to Tito, who underwent surgery for the amputation of his left leg due to circulatory problems.

POLITBURO MAKES CHANGES IN PROVINCIAL LEADERSHIP

FL231246 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 23 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The PCC Central Committee Politburo has decided to make changes in the provincial parties' committees in the provinces of Las Tunas, Granma and Villa Clara. The responsibility of the first secretary of the provincial committees has been assigned to Comrades Luis Alfonso Zayas Ochoa, member of the PCC Central Committee; Roberto Damian Alfonso Gonzalez, who has recently held the post of member of the provincial party committee executive bureau and deputy delegate of the Agriculture Ministry in Havana Province; and Raul Rodriguez Lopez, who was holding the post of second secretary of the provincial party committee in Havana City.

ARMANDO ACOSTA REPLACES JORGE LEZCANO IN CDR

FL231131 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Comrade Armando Acosta Cordero, member of the PCC Central Committee, has been elected national coordinator of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR]. As was recently announced, Comrade Jorge Lezcano Perez, member of the PCC Central Committee, who had occupied the post of CDR national coordinator in recent years, has been designated government minister for functions assigned by the chief of state and government.

VALDES CHAIRS CDR MEETING ON REVOLUTIONARY VIGILANCE

FL231312 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 23 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR] have held a meeting on revolutionary vigilance which was attended by members of the National Directorate and executive secretaries for vigilance at provincial CDR offices.

The meeting was chaired by Commander of the Revolution Ramiro Valdes, member of the PCC Politburo and minister of the interior, Div Gen Jose Abrahantes, first vice minister of the interior, and Armando Acosta, national coordinator of the CDR, both members of the PCC Central Committee.

Div Gen Jose Abrahantes made a speech reporting on the work of the Interior Ministry and problems of ongoing tasks in the struggle against crime. Abrahantes noted the importance of the CDR role in this task and urged CDR members to step up their joint activities with the ministry.

For his part, CDR National Coordinator Armando Acosta spoke on the organization's work in response to proposals and tasks assigned by the revolution. He asserted that in this struggle being waged today by our people against crime and antisocial elements the CDR will occupy the frontline against those enemies, whomever they might be, and that the men and women of the organized people are ready and prepared for the battle. In closing he reiterated the CDR pledge of becoming an increasingly firmer bulwark of party orientations and powerful arm of the Interior Ministry for the defense of the revolution.

PREMIUM PAY EXTENDED TO ALL WORKERS

FL191306 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Jan 80 FL

[Text] By decision of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers (CTC), payment of premium pay will be extended to workers in all areas who meet the requirements. In addition, basic work procedures will be reorganized, including standardization and integration of all occupations in which this can be done. The purpose of the CTC decision is to implement these principles jointly with the state's central organizations and people's government throughout the country.

The CTC decision means extending premium pay to workers in accordance with individual overfulfillment of their production and based on the quality specifications of the products.

MILIAN URGES CONTINUED TOBACCO PLANTING

FL191302 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The peasants of Vuelta Abajo should maintain their high and traditional standards of tobacco growing, Arnaldo Milian, member of the party Central Committee Politburo and minister of agriculture declared at the end of a tour of Pinar del Rio Province.

At the Julio Antonio Mella credit and services cooperative in the municipality of Vinales, the party leader exchanged views with two members of the cooperative, Gilberto Nunez and Luis Ruiz, who briefed him on tobacco planting and the loss of some crops caused by blue mold disease. Arnaldo Milian called for continuing the planting of tobacco until 28 February and using land that is not being used for tuber and vegetable crops.

RISQUET, OTHER PARTY LEADERS VISIT PAPER FACTORY

FL191334 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Jan 80 FL

[Text] PCC Central Committee Secretariat member Jorge Risquet has visited the Uruguay paper factory under construction in the municipality of Jatibonico, Sancti Spiritus Province.

The Siguaney cement plant was another of the installations visited by Jorge Risquet; Joaquin Bernal Camero, alternate member of the PCC Central Committee and party first secretary in that province; Aldo Alvarez, chief of the Central Committee construction department; and Omar Cruz, first secretary of the Union of Young Communists in Sancti Spiritus.

At the Uruguay paper factory site, Risquet showed interest in the process to be used by the plant to manufacture pulp and paper, fulfillment of the plan drafted in 1979 and prospects for the new year.

RISQUET CONGRATULATES OUTSTANDING CANECUTTERS

FL211716 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 21 Jan 80 FL

[Text] PCC Central Committee Secretariat member Jorge Risquet has visited the Evelio Rodriguez Curbelo volunteer canecutters brigade on the occasion of its members becoming the first in Havana Province to cut 7 million arrobas of cane during the current harvest. The 42 members of the brigade made known their desire to cut 5 million arrobas of cane for the 1979-1980 harvest.

PARTY MEETING ON HIGHER EDUCATION HELD IN SANTIAGO

FL212010 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1913 GMT 21 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Antonio Perez Herrero, member of the PCC Central Committee secretariat, has made the closing remarks at a meeting of party members in the higher education sector in Santiago de Cuba. The need to intensify political, ideological and educational work at higher education centers was examined at the meeting.

The participants discussed and exchanged views on the work to be done to raise the quality of schoolwork.

Perez Herrero stressed the thoroughness of the presentations at the meeting and said that the points in the action program should be treated with seriousness and determination. The Central Committee Secretariat member also pointed to the work that party members should do from now on to develop the new generation. He said that the present difficulties in higher education can be solved with the support of the Union of Young Communists and mass organizations.

BRIEFS

ANTI-SOVIET SABOTAGE--Some sabotage has been taking place in the military areas of Cuba. Among the targets are the Soviet military aircraft based on the island and serviced by Bulgarian technicians. [Text] [Paris LE POINT in French 14 Jan 80 p 32 WA]

ANTIGUA

SWISS, VENEZUELAN AID SOUGHT FOR REFINERY

FL222113 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 22 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Antigua's deputy premier, Lester Bird, has returned home from Switzerland where he held discussions with an oil company regarding the resumption of operations at the state-owned West Indies oil refinery. Antigua Government sources said Mr Bird was accompanied on the trip by the general manager of the West Indies Oil Company. The sources said too that the Antigua Government was preparing to send a mission to Venezuela by the end of this month. They noted that high on the agenda for discussions in Caracas was the supply of crude oil which Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins has agreed to allocate for the reopening of the refinery. Venezuela and Antigua have signed agreements to cooperate in a wide range of areas, including the economy, health and education.

JAMAICA

CUBANS REPORTEDLY ACTIVE IN CONSTRUCTION

FL211050 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 16 Jan 80 p 1 FL

[GLEANER western bureau report]

[Text] The Cubans have been erecting several buildings at Montpelier, St James, since November 30 when a GLEANER front-page story told of inactively [as published] on the proposed school site there.

When the GLEANER visited the compound then there was no activity, n· school building, no heavy duty machinery, no materials there. What appeared to be a couple of huts and a storeroom were seen there. The place then was completely fenced by 10 ft zinc. [as published]

Speaking in defence of the government and the Cubans the Ministry of Works (as it was then) said that there was nothing sinister going on behind the zinc fence and the ministry gave several reasons why no work was taking pace on the site.

On Saturday the GLEANER again visited the site and found that a wide portion of the zinc fence was taken down and the public now has a clear view of what is going on and of the several new buildings which had gone up since November 30.

NORWEGIAN MINISTER ANNOUNCES AID PLANS

FL222318 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 22 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Kingston--Norway will help Jamaica to establish a shipping training institute and will extend the current $20-million line of credit for the purchase of capital goods and raw materials. Reiulf Steen, Norwegian minister of commerce and shipping, made the announcement when he spoke at the opening session of the Jamaican-Norwegian intergovernmental joint commission meeting. Steen heads a 32-member delegation that includes representatives of the public and private sectors of Oslo. P.J. Patterson, Jamaican deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, announced that Jamaica would ask Norway to supply fertilizers for the banana industry and technology and experts to revitalize cement production.

INTER-AMERICAN

ECUADOR, PERU SEEK WAYS TO AVOID BORDER FRICTION

PA202137 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 20 Jan 80 PA

[Text] According to reports in Lima, Ecuadorean Foreign Affairs Minister Alfredo Pareja Diezcanseco has said that the Peruvian-Ecuadorean joint commission will meet in 2 weeks in Quito to discuss bilateral relations, especially concerning the border. Regarding this last point, he said it is necessary to take steps to avoid friction on the border between the two countries.

Pareja said he had held fruitful talks on bilateral topics with his Peruvian counterpart, Arturo Garcia, including discussions on the utilization of the binational Puyango and Tumbez rivers to irrigate border areas.

The minister has already returned to Ecuador after attending the Wednesday and Thursday meetings of the Council of Andean Foreign Ministers with Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro.

CHILE

GOVERNMENT WILL NOT INTERVENE IN COPPER MINE STRIKE

PY231723 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0243 GMT 23 Jan 80 PY

[Excerpt] Santiago, Chile, 22 Jan (LATIN)--It was reported here today that the Chilean Government will refrain from intervening in the strike that has paralyzed the El Teniente copper mine for 4 days. Gen Sergio Badio, government secretary general, made this announcement to journalists and added that the conflict will be solved by the parties involved, "as it should be." He noted that "it is known, however, that there is interference from persons from outside who want to give a political connotation to the situation."

MEXICO

PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO TO VISIT NICARAGUA

FL231357 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 23 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo will arrive in Managua, capital of Nicaragua, next Thursday. During his visit Lopez Portillo, together with members of the National Reconstruction Government, will examine ways to broaden cooperation between the two countries. The announcement was made by Nicaragua's Foreign Ministry. The Mexican head of state will also participate in a mass rally at Managua's Plaza de la Revolucion, during which Lopez Portillo and government junta member Daniel Ortega will make speeches.